



LEELANAU COUNTY OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT/9-1-1

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Immediate Release

August 20, 2015

Cleanup Crews Focusing on Public Safety Hazards

Suttons Bay Township – Cleanup crews and equipment are headed to the hardest-hit areas of Leelanau County to focus on clearing tree debris that is causing public safety issues.

As of Wednesday afternoon, tree debris contractors and equipment were in place to assist the Leelanau County Road Commission to further remove tree debris within road rights of way. Although most main roads are open in Leelanau County, the debris removal process continues to ensure the safety of the motoring public.

“We are focusing on removing the most dangerous tree debris in public places and spaces,” said Matt Ansoorge, Leelanau County Emergency Management Coordinator. “That means clearing our road rights of way to ensure traffic hazards are eliminated.”

Residents are reminded to not place private property debris on the shoulders of roads. Private property debris is the responsibility of home and business owners and will not be picked up by the road commission.

To accommodate citizens cleaning up their property, debris can be dropped off at the following location:

- Myles Kimmerly Park, 1397 W. Burdickville Road, Maple City
 - Open: 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Saturday

Use of this site is **FREE** for Leelanau County citizens. Only organic debris—like trees, limbs and brush—will be accepted.

Commercial trucks, contractors and dump truck operators can drop off their debris at the following location:

- Kasson Sand and Gravel, 10282 S. Pierce Road, Maple City
 - Open: 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Kasson Sand and Gravel has agreed to offer large discounted rates for disposal into their pits at \$6 per cubic yard.

MORE

To date, roughly 1,000 cubic yards of brush and 300 cubic yards of logs have been collected at Myles Kimmerly Park.

Leelanau Conservation District Permits

Leelanau County property owners needing to change their landscapes due to the Aug. 2 severe thunderstorms can apply for an expedited permit through the Leelanau County Conservation District.

Permit fees are being waived until further notice. To obtain a permit, contact the conservation district at (231) 256-9783 or email scordes@leelanaucd.org.

Applicants are asked to provide their name, address, phone number and email address when inquiring for a permit.

In addition, the conservation district is providing guidance on erosion control measures and what trees or shrubbery would be best planted on properties.

Free Property Damage Assessments

The Leelanau County Construction Codes Department is providing home and business owners free assessments to storm-damaged properties in need of repair.

The office can assess structures, provide information about work that needs to be done and advise about any necessary permits. They also can determine if an engineer is required.

Anyone with minor to major structural damage is encouraged call (231) 256-9806 to make arrangements.

About the Disaster

Gov. Rick Snyder declared a "state of disaster" on Aug. 10 for Grand Traverse County after severe thunderstorms caused widespread and severe damage on Aug. 2. Upon direction of the governor, the MSP/EMHSD amended the declaration to include Leelanau County on Aug. 14.

By declaring a "state of disaster," the state of Michigan has made available all state resources in cooperation with local response and recovery efforts in the disaster area.

Citizens needing guidance or information about the disaster are encouraged to call the Leelanau County Storm Hotline at (231) 256-8104.

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FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

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